

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 332
Ways and Means

(Delegate Rey, *et al.*)

Election Law - Use of Campaign Material Purchased Under the Authority of a
Prior Treasurer

This bill authorizes a campaign finance entity to distribute campaign material purchased under the authority of a prior treasurer of the campaign finance entity responsible for the campaign material.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: “Campaign material” is defined as any material that (1) contains text, graphics, or other images; (2) relates to a candidate, a prospective candidate, or the approval or rejection of a question or prospective question; and (3) is published or distributed. “Campaign material” includes (1) material transmitted by or appearing on the Internet or other electronic medium and (2) an oral commercial campaign advertisement.

Campaign material must have an “authority line” identifying those responsible for the production and distribution of the campaign material. The authority line of campaign material distributed by a campaign finance entity (a political committee established under State campaign finance law) must identify generally both the campaign finance entity treasurer(s) and campaign finance entity (or entities) responsible for the campaign material.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections; Department of Legislative Services

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mm/hlb

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